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Dkt. 44743-AA-PCT-US/JPW/ANX

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jonathan A. Bard, et al.
Serial No.: 09/430,775 Examiner: Nirmal S. Basi
Filed: October 29, 1999 Group Art Unit: 1646
For: Method of Obtaining Compositions Comprising Y4
Specific Compounds

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
August 18, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO JULY 15, 2003 OFFICE ACTION

This Communication is submitted in response to the July 15, 2003 Office Action issued in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the July 15, 2003 Office Action was originally due Friday, August 15, 2003. As verified by an August 18, 2003 telephone conference between Ms. Amy Hamilton, a legal assistant in the undersigned attorney's office, and the United States Post Office, Times Square Station, zip code 10036, there was a postal service interruption beginning during the afternoon of Thursday, August 14, 2003 and continuing throughout the day on Friday, August 15, 2003. In view of this disruption of postal service within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §21(a) and 37 C.F.R.

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1.6(e) and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office notice to this effect on its website patentees maintain that this response would have been timely filed on August 15, 2003 but for the disruption in postal service activities, but could not be filed on August 15, 2003 as a result. Accordingly, the response is now due the next business day, i.e., today, Monday, August 18, 2003, and this Communication is being timely filed.